

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Lionel VENTELON *et al.*) Group Art Unit: 1796
Application Serial No.: 10/563,792) Examiner: Kelechi Chidi EGWIM
Filing Date: May 7, 2007) Confirmation No.: 5332
Title: METHOD FOR PREPARING)
ANISOTROPIC SILICA)
AGGREGATES)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed June 17, 2010,

Applicants respond as follows.

The Examiner restricted pending Claims 15-28¹ into the following two groups:

Group I: Claims 15-26 ("drawn to a process for preparing anisotropic aggregates of silica"); and

Group II: Claims 27 and 28 ("drawn to aggregates of silica and a reinforcing filler containing the same").

See *Office Action mailed June 17, 2010, Page 2.*

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the claims of Group I, *i.e.*, Claims 15-26.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the Restriction Requirement at least due to the mandate of § 803 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure which states: "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner *must* examine it on the merits, even though

¹ Applicants note that the Office Action Summary should list Claims 15 to 28 as pending. Claims 1-14 were canceled via the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 6, 2006.